

I am writing in support of HB **5707, An Act Requiring Certain Higher Education Facilities That Conduct Research Using Cats or Dogs To Offer Such Cats or Dog to Animal Rescue Organizations Prior to Euthanizing Any Such Cat or Dog and Providing for the Proper Sheltering of Dogs.**

Both components of this Act are clearly highly beneficial to dogs and/or cats without being detrimental to any law-abiding human constituency.

Research Facilities: When cats and dogs have finished serving as research subjects and are considered adoptable, there is a moral obligation to let the animals live out the rest of their lives in a humane way. By offering such cats and dogs to animal adoption or animal rescue organizations, these animals would have a good chance to end up living in a caring, loving home for the rest of their lives. Isn't this the least we can do for these animals who have had to sacrifice part of their lives to the needs of researchers? With minimal effort (e.g., a phone call or e-mail) on the part of staff of the research laboratories, these animals would be given the opportunity to lead the good life that they deserve.

Proper Sheltering: This part of the Act would replace previous legislation by making it more specific and clear regarding proper sheltering for dogs. It should thereby reduce the extent of one form of cruelty to dogs, and would clarify for animal control officers exactly what they can enforce.

Thank you,

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